goods train between kuneru and Gumada of South Eastern Railway during September, 1988 on the Rayagada-Vizianagaram section;

(c) what are the reasons of the derailment of the goods trains at these two places; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to prevent such derailments in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The cost of damage to railway property on account of these accidents has been estimated at Rs. 15.5 and 10.25 lakhs respectively.

(c) Both the accidents occurred due to railway staff.

(d) Some of the important steps being taken to prevent such derailments are:—

(i) Increased pace of rehabilitation of worn-out assets viz. track and rolling stock.

(ii) Special attention to indentified accident-prone sections.

(iii) Induction of modern technology to detect rail fractures.

(iv) Modernisation of workshops.

(v) Greater stress on ultrasonic testing of axles to detect latent flaws.

(vi) Greater emphasis being laid on improved training of railway staff in the Zonal Training Schools.

Transfer request of couples in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

20. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations from Members of Parliament and associations unveiling the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathn's recent decision to consider transfer request of its couples only;

(b) if so, what are the details of the authors and grounds thereof;

(c) whether the Sangathan has now corrected/modified the sair decision; and

(d) if so, what are the details there-of and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir Shri Muhiram Saikia, Member of Parlimaent and the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association have, inter-alia, suggested that no distinction be made between teachers whose spouses are working in Kendriya Vidyalayas or other departments/organisations in respect of cut off date for considering requests for transfers. This is already being done.

Promotions of Departmental candidates in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

21. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalays Sangathan has convened any meetings of Departmental Promotion Committee to consider promotions of departmental candidates to the posts of Deputy Commissioners during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the details of condidates selected for promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The information is as under:

Year of DPC meeting	Names of candidates selected	Date of joining as Deputy Commissioners
1985-87	Shri S.L. Khanna	28-8-1985
	Shri V.V. Srikantaiah	3-10-1985
1987-88	Shri Puran Chand	29-1-1988

Selection of PGT (History) in Kendraya Vidyalaya Moscow

22. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1997 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the candidates who had appeared for the post of PGT (History) in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow in November, 1987 has been now offered posting in that Kendriya Vidyalaya; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On the finalisation of the proceedings of the Selection Committee, the post of PGT(History) in Kndriya Vidyalaya, Moscow has been offered to the selected candidate.

India's skill to repair ships

23. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's shipyards have gained enough technological skill for repair of ships, building of ships, trawlers and other equipments for off-shore drilling of oil;

(b) if so, what is the amount of foreign exchange which the country has saved under each of these items for which we had to depend on foreign help;

(c) which are the areas where deficiencies still exist; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to overcome those deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Indian shipyards possess technological skills for repair of ships and for the building of trawlers, and most varieties of ships and structures required for off-shore drilling.

(b) It is not possible to estimate with precision the saving in foreign exchange.

(c) The deficiency exists mainly in the following areas:—

(i) Limited shipbuilding and shiprepair capacity available in the country.

(ii) Ships built in Indian yards generally cost more and have longer delivery time when compared to the leading shipyards abroad.

(iii) Weak financial conditions of the major shipyards.

(iv) Dependence on foreign inputs such as marine engines, instrumentation, etc.

(v) Low productivity in Indian yards.

(d) The steps that have been taken are:—

(i) Augmentation and modernisation of existing shiprepair facilities in India.